



UNCLASSIFIED

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Buenos Aires, Argentina

V047

August 31, 1976

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

Fernando E. Rondon, Esquire
ARA/ECA, Room 4906
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Fred:

I am replying to your August 20 letter to Wayne.

As you can probably appreciate, it is difficult to verify names of victims--be they of bombings or raids or whatever--such as that requested in the Vander Jagt letter. I did go through the press of early June but found nothing on the alleged bombings in Buenos Aires June 2. Eight subversives were reportedly killed in Cordoba that day, four of them women, but, as is generally the case, no names were given.

Our files on congressional correspondence on the refugee situation grow fatter and fatter. We will continue to hit Diego with it when he's up; currently he's in the hospital, though, so we will save up ~~Reich and Conte~~ for another day. I trust the congressmen are also writing to the Argentine Embassy, where it appears ARA is giving Musich no rest either.

In answer to your final question, you are quite safe in saying thousands of persons have been arrested in Argentina. The collective estimates (which run from 3,000 to 7,000 and beyond) come from a wide range of sources in the Church, government, political and labor leaders, UNHCR and other diplomatic colleagues. As you can see from our human rights epic, there is some grey area between those who are openly arrested and booked and those who are "arrested" and detained or spirited off. Even the security forces don't always seem to know the difference.

Best,

Yvonne Thayer
Yvonne Thayer
Political Officer

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